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December 22, 2014

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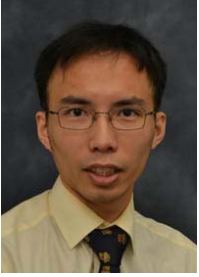
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Ebola and Social Media

December 22, 2014



A collaborative study including Dr. Isaac Chun-Hai Fung, assistant professor of epidemiology, at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, Georgia Southern University studies [Ebola and the Social Media](#). During heightened news coverage about cases of Ebola in the USA, anecdotal observations suggested that many Americans were anxious about Ebola. Given the negligible risk of infection, their anxiety was arguably driven by perceived rather than actual risk. Published in *The Lancet*, the correspondence shows how worldwide traffic on Twitter and Google about Ebola increased as news spread about the domestic US cases and how they compare with influenza-related searches and tweets. Twitter data can provide public health practitioners with a quantitative indicator of anxiety, anger, or negative emotions in the general

public where Twitter penetration is high. This indicator could help public health practitioners to alleviate anxiety and correctly communicate the risk associated with Ebola.

SOWEGA-AHEC Contract

December 22, 2014

Faculty from the Georgia Southern University, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health, Department of Health Policy and Management has been awarded a contract by the Southwest Georgia Area Health Education Center to conduct a regional healthcare workforce needs assessment. The assessment will serve leadership across a 38 county region of Southwest Georgia. The health professions assessed include nurse practitioners, physician assistants, registered nurses, health information technology professionals and licensed behavioral health professionals. The assessment includes quantitative analysis, qualitative analysis and workforce supply and demand forecast modeling. Dr. Bill Mase and Dr. Bettye Apenteng serve as Principal Investigators with Dr. Gulzar Shah and Dr. Yelena Tarasenko as co-investigators.

ORISE Research Participation

December 22, 2014



Dr. Gulzar Shah, Associate Dean for Research at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University was recently appointed as an Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) research participant, in “recognition of (his) academic excellence and scientific achievements”. The **ORISE Research Participation Programs at the CDC** are educational and training programs designed to provide university faculty and students opportunities to participate in project-specific CDC research, current public health research and developmental activities. Through participation in ORISE program, Dr. Shah will collaborate with CDC researchers to perform research on topics in public health services and systems research (PHSSR). His interdisciplinary training and multi-sector work experience spans over 19 years, with appointments in both academia and public health practice agencies, nationally and internationally.

Culturally Sensitive Masculinity Scale

December 22, 2014

A collaborative study including Dr. Krista Mincey, alumni, Dr. Moya Alfonso, assistant professor and Dr. John Luque, associate professor of community health behavior and education at the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health Georgia Southern University describes how a [Culturally Sensitive Masculinity Scale](#) was developed for Black men using qualitative data. Data came from in-depth interviews ($N = 13$) and focus groups ($n = 4$) with 46 undergraduate Black males at two universities (Historically Black College and University and Predominately White Institution) in the Southeastern United States. The resulting Masculinity Inventory Scale (MIS) items were developed using direct quotes from the data. The scale was completed by 164 participants as one part of a self-administered survey. Factor analysis showed that five subscales of masculinity exist for Black men: Mainstream society, Black masculinity, Primary group, Mainstream society/Black masculinity, and Primary/peer group.